

3. APS ASSESSMENT FACTORS

- This assessment is used by county-level APS practitioners to determine an individual's risk of being abused, neglected, and/or exploited. It was developed by the Colorado Adult Protective Services Program and adapted to meet the needs of Ohio's program.

FACTOR ADLs/IADLs	EXAMPLES OF RATING CRITERIA: Assess only the client's physical ability to complete the task (prompting is captured in the Cognition section). "No Impact" in the ADL/IADL section means the client is able to perform the task independently without an assistive device.	S	M	NI	DLS/IADLS
Ambulation (ability to walk about freely)	MINOR - Has an unsteady gait or some difficulty walking (uses wall/furniture/cane occasionally for support, avoid stairs, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Requires an assistive device to ambulate safely (cane, walker, wheelchair, etc.).				
Bathe, Shower, or Sponge Bathe	MINOR - Needs assistive device in bath/shower (grab bars, shower chair, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Unable to independently complete bathing tasks (caretaker/family assistance to bathe/shower/sponge bathe, etc.).				
Eating and Drinking	MINOR - Occasionally has trouble getting food/drink to mouth or needs assistive device (self-stabilizing tableware, straw, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Unable to eat/drink independently (requires caretaker/family assistance, IV nutrition, etc.).				
Grooming (hair, nails, hygiene)	MINOR - Occasionally has trouble grooming or needs assistive device (one-handed nail trimmer, long handled brush/comb, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Unable to complete grooming (caretaker/family assistance, etc.).				
Toileting Self	MINOR - Occasionally has incontinence or needs adult diapers but can manage without assistance (adult diapers, bedside commode, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Unable to toilet or use diapers independently (home health, family assistance, etc.).				
Transferring (chair to bed, bed to walker, etc.)	MINOR - Has some difficulty transferring (uses furniture, assistive device, or momentum to transfer, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Unable to transfer without assistance (home health, family assistance, Hoyer lift, etc.).				
Communicating	MINOR - Uses assistive device to express need (communication board, tablet, interpreter, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Gestures to signify yes/no (blinks, touches, etc.), needs trained communication assistant, or is unable to express needs in any way (coma, etc.).				
Physical Ability to Take/Use Medication	MINOR - Able to take/use meds w/ assistive technology (pre-loaded injectable, EZ open container, liquid vs. tablet, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Unable to get med to mouth, apply cream, inject med, or otherwise take/use med (home health, family assistance, etc.).				
Houscleaning/Laundry	MINOR - Able to complete basic housekeeping/laundry chores with assistive device (front load washer, extended duster, EZ grabber, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Unable to independently complete housekeeping/laundry chores (home maker service, family assist, etc.).				
Dressing/Undressing Self	MINOR - Able to dress/undress with modified clothing (elastic waist bands, no buttons, slip on shoes, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Unable to dress/undress (home health, family assistance, etc.).				
Preparing Meals	MINOR - Able to prepare meals with modified utensils/appliances (electric can opener, large/easy grip utensils, lightweight pots/pans, accessible sink, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Unable to prepare meals (home maker services, home delivered meals, etc.).				
Shopping for Food/Necessities	MINOR - Able to get to the store and complete shopping needs w/ assistance/assistive device (needs help reaching items, uses a grabber, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Unable to complete shopping needs (home maker service, family assistance, grocery delivery, etc.).				
Using Available Transportation	MINOR - Limited ability to use own or public transportation (e.g., limited night vision, lack of accessible transportation options). SIGNIFICANT - Unable to use transportation (caretaker assistance to leave the home, etc.).				
Using the Phone	MINOR - Able to use phone with assistive modifications (large button phone, pre-programmed numbers, voice command, amplification, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Unable to use the phone (caretaker assistance, etc.).				

S = SIGNIFICANT

M = MINOR

NI = NO IMPACT

Cognition

3. APS ASSESSMENT FACTORS - *cont.*

FACTOR: Cognition	EXAMPLES OF RATING CRITERIA: This section captures the client's cognitive ability to independently manage the various factors. "No Impact" in this area means there are no cognitive deficits and the client is able to complete the factor independently.	S	M	NI
Requires Prompting	MINOR - Client needs occasional reminders to remember to complete tasks (med minder, family support, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Client needs consistent/multiple prompts to complete ADLs/IADLs or other tasks (home care, group/host home, assisted living, etc.).			
Communicating Ideas and Thoughts	MINOR - Client can communicate needs and simple ideas but has difficulty formulating complex thoughts/ideas (simplify language, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Client is unable to communicate needs or formulate simple or complex thoughts/ideas (decision maker, etc.).			
Manages Medication Regimen	MINOR - Client needs daily reminder to take medications (med box, alarm, support from family, calendar, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Client is unable to manage meds, even with reminders, resulting in under/overdose of medications (home health, caregiver, etc.).			
Managing Money	MINOR - Difficulty managing bills/resources or understanding her finances (auto-pay bills, develop budget, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Unable to manage bills/resources or understand his finances, i.e., income source/amount, bills to pay (money manager, POA, etc.).			
Ability to Make Medical Decisions and Manage Health Care	MINOR - Needs some help to understand med procedures, insurance, med advice (caretaker, family assist, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Unable to understand/make med decisions, recognize consequences, etc. (proxy decision maker, etc.).			
Planning and Sequencing	MINOR - Complete simple/routine multi-step tasks, e.g., a morning routine, but not complex tasks (prompts, reminder chart, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Cannot complete multi-step tasks, e.g., plan/make a meal, react to emergency (caretaker, assisted living, etc.).			
Receiving and Evaluating Information	MINOR - Difficulty processing complex information but can understand w/assist (complete Medicaid app, assist with end-of-life plan, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Cannot process information or take appropriate actions even w/ assistance (caretaker, guardianship, etc.)			
Recognizing Basic Needs	MINOR - Occasionally forgets a meal, bath, turn on heat, etc. (reminders, family support, part-time caretaker, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Routinely forgets/ignores meals, hygiene, medical needs, dressing for weather, etc. (caretaker, assisted living, etc.).			
Awareness of Consequences of Actions/Choices	MINOR-Some trouble w/ action/choice impact, e.g., diabetes and poor diet, etc. (education, home maker, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Cannot understand action/choice impact, e.g., gives away money vs. pay bills; drugs in home; eviction, etc. (decision-maker, SNF, etc.)			
Orientation to Time/Place/Self	MINOR - Sometimes forgets details of events but knows who/where he/she is, etc. (simple reminders/prompts, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Consistently confused about name/location/date impacting health/safety (caretaker, Assisted Living, SNF, etc.).			
Short- or Long-Term Memory Issues	MINOR - Some difficulty recognizing/contextualizing acquaintances/events, but can recall with minimal prompting (reminders, prompting, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Forgets family/important events impacting health/safety (HCBS, SNF, guardianship, etc.).			

S = SIGNIFICANT

M = MINOR

NI = NO IMPACT

Behavioral Concerns

FACTOR: Behavioral Concerns	EXAMPLES OF RATING CRITERIA: This section captures behavioral concerns that may be a result of other conditions the client has, e.g., dementia, brain injury, mental illness. "No impact" means the client does not have these behaviors or does not have any history of mental illness.	S	M	NI
Inappropriate or Unsafe Behaviors	MINOR - Behavior is occasionally inappropriate but does not pose a serious risk to safety (prompts, behavioral coaching, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Behaviors put client/community at risk (caretaker assistance, supervision, guardianship, etc.).			
Violent/Aggressive Behaviors	MINOR - Verbal arguments/empty threats (behavior mod/therapy, mental health, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Frequent physical/verbal altercations resulting in/likely to result in injury, eviction, arrest, etc. (behavior mod/therapy, intensive mental health, etc.).			
Wandering	MINOR - Occasionally becomes confused when going somewhere but eventually finds way (transportation, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Wanders from home and gets lost (supervision, security measures, locked unit, etc.).			
Compulsive Behavior	MINOR - Some compulsive behaviors, but basic needs are still being met (behavior mod, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Unable to manage compulsions, i.e., pica, compulsive gambling, obsessive hand washing creating open sores, etc. (mental health, caretaker, etc.).			
Delusions	MINOR - Delusions do not affect the client/community safety, i.e., believes the government has tapped phone (mental health services, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Delusions disrupt basic needs and/or community (mental health case management, etc.).			
Hallucinations (auditory and visual)	MINOR - Hallucinations do not affect client/community safety (mental health services, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Hallucinations cause client to make unsafe choices and/or put community at risk (mental health hold, supervision, caretaker assistance, etc.).			
Withdrawn/Loss of Interest/Decreased Social Interaction	MINOR - Decreased social interactions/interests (mental health evaluation, companion, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Withdrawn from social interactions/interests (mental health intervention, companion volunteer, etc.).			
Major Mental Health Concerns, Including Depression, Anxiety, Fears	MINOR - Some symptoms of mental health issues that do not interfere with client's safety/health (depression meds, socialization, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Symptoms are so severe the client cannot perform basic needs (intensive mental health intervention, etc.).			
Recent Loss (death, job, newly disabled, etc.)	MINOR - Loss is apparent but is not interfering with client's basic needs (family support, companion, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Loss is causing client distress such that basic needs are not met (mental health intervention, grief counseling, etc.).			
Substance Use Problems	MINOR - Occasional misuse of alcohol or drugs, prescribed or illegal, but does not impair health/safety (education, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Consistently misuses substances resulting in harm to self/others (substance abuse treatment, etc.).			
Suicidal Ideation	MINOR - Passive suicidal thoughts such as, "I don't want to be here anymore," but no intention of taking action (mental health, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Active suicidal thoughts and plan/means to follow through (crisis intervention, mental health, etc.).			

S = SIGNIFICANT

M = MINOR

NI = NO IMPACT

3. APS ASSESSMENT FACTORS - *cont.*

FACTOR: Medical	EXAMPLES OF RATING CRITERIA: Acute and chronic medical illness, conditions, and deficits. "No Impact" means the client has no medical or assistive technology needs for the risk factor	S	M	NI
Chronic Medical Issues	MINOR - Mild chronic medical issue, e.g., arthritis, but client can meet basic needs (family support, medical exam, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Severe chronic medical issues, e.g., kidney/heart disease, cancer (medical intervention, caretaker assistance, etc.).			
Attends All Medical Appointments	MINOR - Some missed medical appointments (transportation, doctor home visits, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Consistently misses medical appointments/has not had needed medical care for years (new provider, transportation, urgent care, etc.).			
Dental Needs	MINOR - Mild pain that interferes with ability to eat certain foods (dental exam/treatment, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Teeth/gums are neglected, decayed, loss of teeth (dental care/intervention, dentures, etc.).			
Hearing	MINOR - Mild difficulty hearing (speak loudly, hearing aids, phone amplifier, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Client has moderate to profound difficulty hearing (hearing aids, ASL, cochlear implant, etc.).			
Vision	MINOR - Some difficulty seeing (eye exam, glasses/bifocals, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Moderate to complete vision loss or has a degenerative eye disease (medical intervention, assistive devices, caretaker assistance, etc.).			
Over/Under Weight	MINOR - Over/under weight, does not affect medical conditions/daily tasks (Ensure, dietitian, exercise, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Over/under weight exacerbates/causes medical condition or impairs daily tasks (med intervention, assistive device, caretaker, etc.).			

S = SIGNIFICANT

M = MINOR

NI = NO IMPACT

Home/Residence

FACTOR: Home/ Residence	EXAMPLES OF RATING CRITERIA: This is the client's home or where the client lives regularly. It is not a temporary environment, such as a hospital. "No Impact" means the client's home is adequate and there are no safety or health concerns for that factor.	S	M	NI
Available Food, Properly Stored	MINOR - Limited food supply; some perishables outdated/moldy (food bank, home delivered meals, SNAP, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - No food in home or food so limited/spoiled that client could not meet minimal dietary needs (food bank, emergency food, SNAP, etc.).			
Structural Accessibility of Home/Residence	MINOR - Home needs minor modifications to meet client's needs (wheelchair ramp, grab bars, toilet seat riser, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Home needs major renovation/modifications to meet client's needs (widen doorways, install chair lift, walk in shower, etc.).			
Adequate Living Space for Household Size	MINOR - Some overcrowding exists, i.e., there is not enough sleeping space/chairs (add chairs, bed, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Overcrowding impairs/limits movement/rest/sleep/hygiene to extent quality of life is impaired (new home, reduce household size, etc.).			
Structural Safety	MINOR - Living space may have minimal structural issues (repair roof leaks, storm damage, cracked sidewalk, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Client is not safe to live in home in current condition (major professional repairs/demolition, etc.).			
Biological Hazards	MINOR - Client safe to live in home but needs some hazard mitigation (minor mold treatment, specialized cleaning services, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Client is unsafe in residence until mitigation is completed (hazmat, carpets replaced, walls replaced, etc.).			
Infestation of Vermin	MINOR - Pests are occasionally seen in home but do not pose a health risk. (traps/bug spray, home cleaning, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Infestation is severe and poses a health risk to client (professional extermination, replace furniture/flooring/walls, etc.).			
Dangerous Objects or Substances	MINOR - Home has minimal amounts of dangerous objects/substances (inappropriately stored chemicals/cleaners, broken glass, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Home contains large amounts of dangerous objects/substances (poses serious threat to health/safety, etc.).			
Excessive Waste/ Trash	MINOR - Home has some overflowing trash/dirty dishes/clutter in living space (housekeeping, home maker services, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Home has trash/waste impairing ability to fully utilize living space (deep cleaning, organization, trash removal, etc.).			
Hoarding	MINOR - Some clear pathways/areas in essential areas (mental health, specialized cleaning, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Pathways/essential areas blocked causing problems in daily activities (mental health, specialized cleaning, code enforcement, etc.).			
Fire Hazards	MINOR - Some fire risks, i.e., cigarette burns in clothing, flammable items near stove, etc. (safety education, smoking modification, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Previous fire or risk requires immediate intervention (supervision, disconnect stove, repairs, etc.).			
Appliances	MINOR - An appliance needs repair but there is alternate option to meet basic needs (stove top works but oven doesn't, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Appliance necessary for basic needs is not functional/non-existent (working refrigerator, means to cook food, etc.).			
Plumbing	MINOR - Residence has some plumbing deficits but they are not causing major concern (snake the drains, basic plumbing repair, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Residence has major plumbing deficits (extensive water damage, broken/burst pipes, no working toilet, etc.).			
Utilities	MINOR - Some utilities are not working but do not impact client safety (reconnect gas to hot H2O heater, pay phone bill, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Utilities are disconnected due to non-payment or disrepair (repair heat source, pay utility bill, HEAP, etc.).			
Neighborhood Safety	MINOR - Rare/occasional criminal activity may occur in neighborhood but does not pose high risk. (New locks, security measures installed, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Client's neighborhood is a known high-crime area and client safety at risk. (Relocation).			
Stable Housing	MINOR - Client does not have permanent housing or relocates/evicted frequently (financial manager, stable housing). SIGNIFICANT - Client is chronically homeless or is being evicted (alternative housing, emergency housing, permanent housing, etc.).			

S = SIGNIFICANT

M = MINOR

NI = NO IMPACT

Financial Circumstances

3. APS ASSESSMENT FACTORS - *cont.*

FACTOR: Financial Circumstances	EXAMPLES OF RATING CRITERIA: This area captures information related to the client's financial situation, such as adequate income to meet basic needs and if income/assets are used to meet needs. "No Impact" means the client's financial situation doesn't pose any health/safety concerns.	S	M	NI
Ability to Access Funds and Financial Information	MINOR - Client cannot easily access income and/or financial information independently. (Access to debit card, change bank location, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Client is unable to access income/financial information independently. (Financial manager, POA, etc.).			
Having Adequate Income	MINOR - Income is sufficient for basic needs but not for unexpected costs (family assistance, low income housing, SNAP, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Client doesn't have sufficient funds to meet basic needs (low income housing, SNAP, HEAP, SSI, etc.).			
Adequate Health Care Coverage	MINOR - Client has medical insurance but is not comprehensive (QMB, Part D, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - No insurance/insufficient to cover essential medical needs (Medicaid, supplemental insurance, etc.).			
Unpaid Bills	MINOR - Client has occasionally paid bills late (set up auto-pay for bills, family assistance with bill paying, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Client consistently has unpaid bills (rep payee, conservator, etc.).			
Change in Financial Circumstances	MINOR - Some difficulty seeing (eye exam, glasses/bifocals, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Moderate to complete vision loss or has a degenerative eye disease (medical intervention, assistive devices, caretaker assistance, etc.).			
Uses Income/Assets to Meet Basic Needs	MINOR - Occasionally client cannot afford basic needs due to purchasing non-essential items. (Budgeting education, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Client consistently does not meet basic needs due to buying non-essential items. (Money manager, conservator, etc.).			

S = SIGNIFICANT

M = MINOR

NI = NO IMPACT

Maltreatment

FACTOR: Maltreatment	EXAMPLES OF RATING CRITERIA: These risk factors specifically address client's safety as related to physical/sexual abuse, caretaker neglect, exploitation, and possible criminal activity. "No Impact" means the client has not experienced/is not experiencing the risk factor.	S	M	NI
Illegal or Unsafe Activity in the Home	MINOR - Some illegal/unsafe activity but not an imminent risk, i.e., misdemeanor crimes (safety plan, protection order, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Illegal/unsafe activity impairs safety, i.e., physical fights, drug manufacturing, etc. (evict perps, etc.).			
Physical Pain or Injury	MINOR - Experienced pain as a result of abuse (caretaker retraining, new caretaker, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Visible marks, injuries, sores, broken bones, etc. as a result of abuse (medical treatment, remove caretaker, protective order, etc.).			
Unreasonable Confinement or Restraint	MINOR - Unnecessarily confined to a recliner/bed/wheelchair most of the day (education, new caretaker, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Locked in room, improper use of physical/chemical restraint not approved in care plan (new caretaker, medical care, etc.).			
Not Following Care Plan/Standards	MINOR - Care plan not followed but has not caused injury or increased medical concerns (education, reminders, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Care plan not followed causing injury/pain or worsens medical/other conditions (med care, new caretaker, etc.).			
Harassment, Threats, Intimidation	MINOR - Avoids situations with a person due to fear of harassment/threat/intimidation (new caretaker, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Acts as a result of threat/intimidation/harassment by another, e.g., must give money to avoid nursing facility (new caretaker, etc.).			
Sexual Acts, Innuendo, Pornography	MINOR - Perp makes sexual innuendos but has not yet inappropriately touched or performed sexual acts (new caretaker, police, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Perp has performed or coerced client to perform sexual acts or watch pornography.			
Income/Assets Being Used by Other People	MINOR - Property, i.e., home/car, used by other person, i.e., living w/ client and not helping w/household costs. (Eviction, rental agreement, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Money/financial assets are used by other person. (Conservator, rep payee, etc.).			
Scams/Frauds/Lotteries	MINOR - Client approached by and interested in lottery/scam but has not committed funds. (Education re: scams/frauds, etc.). SIGNIFICANT - Client participates/participated in lottery/scam. (Cancel credit cards, change phone #, financial mgr., etc.).			

S = SIGNIFICANT

M = MINOR

NI = NO IMPACT

Support Services

3. APS ASSESSMENT FACTORS - *cont.*

FACTOR: Support Services	EXAMPLES OF RATING CRITERIA: These risk factors specifically address client's safety as related to physical/sexual abuse, caretaker neglect, exploitation, and possible criminal activity. "No Impact" means the client has not experienced/is not experiencing the risk factor.	S	M	NI
Availability and Accessibility of Services	MINOR - Some services are available but the availability may be limited due to location or other contributing factor. SIGNIFICANT - Services are not available to the client due to income, location or other contributing factor.			
Availability and Accessibility of Transportation	MINOR - Has transportation but may be limited due to time constraints, maintenance or another factor. SIGNIFICANT - Has no transportation to utilize available resources. (Resources needed to reduce safety risk).			
Support Network (Family/Community)	MINOR - Avoids situations with family/community due to availability/accessibility or personal situation. This has minimal impact on client safety. SIGNIFICANT - No family/community support available/accessible. This has a significant impact on client safety.			

S = SIGNIFICANT

M = MINOR

NI = NO IMPACT

Caregiver/Perpetrator

FACTOR: Caregiver/ Perpetrator	EXAMPLES OF RATING CRITERIA: These risk factors specifically address client's safety as related to risk factors identified with the caretaker/perpetrator. "No Impact" means the caretaker/perpetrator's risk factors have no impact on client safety.	S	M	NI
Access to the Client	MINOR - Access to client on a limited basis when others are not present. SIGNIFICANT - Unrestricted access to client. Has 24-hour care responsibilities as client is dependent on caregiver/perpetrator for activities of daily living.			
Coping Skills to Life Crises	MINOR - Difficult, inappropriate or unrealistic adjustment to life crises, i.e., frustration, depression, fatigue or anger. Caregiver is socially isolated. SIGNIFICANT - Overreaction or inappropriate response to investigation. Alleged perpetrator (AP) is not family member of caregiver. Opportunistic behavior on part of AP.			
Physical Health of Caregiver/ Perpetrator	MINOR - Physical disability, episodic difficulties, poor health or poorly compensated or controlled chronic illness. SIGNIFICANT - Severe and functionally limiting physical disability. Chronic or uncontrolled disease. Recent deterioration of physical health.			
Mental Health of Caregiver/ Perpetrator	MINOR - Periodic mental/emotional difficulties. Poor reasoning abilities or unrealistic expectations of the client. SIGNIFICANT - Severe and functionally limiting mental disability. History of mental illness, unresponsive to the client's needs, unprepared for the caregiver role or threatening client with institutionalization.			
Caregiver or Perpetrator Victim Dynamics (related to risk)	MINOR - Client protects the AP by making excuses for the behavior. Client denies or minimizes the situation. SIGNIFICANT - Client has a need to protect the caregiver/perpetrator. Client/perpetrator relationship allows the client to tolerate abuse, neglect or exploitation. Client does not have the cognitive skills necessary to identify or recognize the situation.			
Level of Cooperation with Investigative Process	MINOR – Reluctantly cooperate with the investigation or the cooperation is contingent on outside influence. SIGNIFICANT – Refuses to cooperate with investigation. Does not believe there is a problem that needs attention or does not respond to letters or requests for interviews.			
Financial Dependency on the Victim	MINOR - Provides care due to financial need, client is responsible for providing supplemental financial support or an indication of opportunistic behavior is recognized. SIGNIFICANT - Caregiver/perpetrator is financially dependent on client. History of opportunistic behavior or history of exploitative behavior.			
History of Substance Abuse	MINOR - Episodic history of substance abuse. SIGNIFICANT - History of chronic substance abuse.			

S = SIGNIFICANT

M = MINOR

NI = NO IMPACT

